

1.        A backlight comprising a light guide plate, three or more linear lamps arranged along an end face of the light guide plate, an insulating spacer provided in an intermediate position in a longitudinal direction of said linear lamps for supporting said linear lamps, and a lamp reflector arranged so as to surround said linear lamps for reflecting light from the linear lamps to a light guide plate side,

          said linear lamps being, when viewed from an end face side of the light guide plate, arranged so that all the linear lamps are directly visible without being shielded by another linear lamp, and among said linear lamps, a center linear lamp in a thickness direction of the light guide plate end face being arranged closer to the light guide plate side than other linear lamps,

          said insulating spacer comprising a plurality of apertures, and among said plurality of apertures, a center aperture being arranged closer to the light guide plate side than other apertures, and

          said lamp reflector comprising a back surface which faces the plurality of linear lamps and a side face for supporting the back surface against the light guide plate, said back surface having a convex portion projecting inward at a center portion along a longitudinal direction of the reflector.

2.        The backlight according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of linear lamps is an uneven number.

3.        The backlight according to claim 1, wherein a slit is formed along a longitudinal direction on said lamp reflector back surface, and cables connected to said linear lamps are housed in said slit.

4.        The backlight according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the plural apertures of said insulating spacer is a through hole, and other apertures comprise a dividing slit which extends from a periphery to the aperture.

5.        The backlight according to claim 4, wherein said insulating spacer is made from transparent silicon rubber.

6. The backlight according to claim 1, wherein said insulating spacer is provided with a taper whose contact surface area of at least one contact section with said linear lamps, lamp reflector, or light guide plate is made to decrease, and whose transverse cross-section shape is formed in a tapered manner.
7. The backlight according to claim 6, wherein the taper of said insulating spacer is formed from a plurality of planes.
8. The backlight according to claim 6, wherein said insulating spacer is formed from transparent silicon rubber.
9. A liquid crystal display which arranges the backlight according to any of claims 1 to 8 on a back surface of a liquid crystal panel.